**1.** Explore the Intel Seeing Reason Tool. Click on the Overview and Benefits link. How does the tool facilitate students’ critical thinking?

The tool creates maps of cause and effect, which gives students to organize and SEE data, which helps them better understand the information. These visual diagrams require the student to think, hypothesize and investigate, all higher order thinking.

**2.** Click on Try the Tool and then click on the Demo and read the Project Description Road Safety. The map shows student’s ideas about causes of traffic jams. Create a new factor, describe its relationship to traffic jams, and add it to the map. Explain what you did.

To create a new factor I went to edit factor information and described the factor. I added Emergency Vehicles on Road – That one or multiple emergency vehicles may block a lane and also slow down traffic as people slow to see what happened.

**3.** Next click on the Tutorial (underneath Demo on the Try the Tool page) and view the animation. What are the key steps a teacher must take to set up the Seeing Reason Tool and engage students in using the tool?

Teacher must:

- Set up a new Seeing Reason project, under manage projects.

- Title the project, describe the project and compose a question your students must answer for the project and submit.

- Teachers can generate a set of teams manually or automatically, or from previous projects. They can also add new teams.

- The workspace tool wizard requires teacher to enter the number of teams and label them.

- After submitting teacher receives a confirmation.

- A teacher can access team info by clicking on team ID and add student names.

- Teacher then shares the team names and passwords with students so they can log on.

-To engage students in using the tool is to have classroom discussion for agreement on the perspective of a problem and a stepping-stone to ask them to brainstorm causes and solutions.

**4.** Click on the Project Examples link and explore the Project Ideas and Unit Plans. How do the examples stimulate your thinking of how to use the Seeing Reason Tool?

I think it would be a useful tool when trying to get students to analyze a character, the plot, or themes of a story. A great tool to get students stimulated by each others ideas and prompt discussion or debates.

**5.** Explore the Intel Showing Evidence Tool. Click on the Overview and Benefits link. How does the tool facilitate students’ critical thinking?

This is a useful tool to engage students to learn how to critically construct, evaluate, and defend their arguments. This tool teaches and supports students as they create a claim and learn how to gather and use evidence to support the claim. I liked that it also offers counter claims to arguments and the components of an argument.

**6.** Click on Try the Tool and watch the Animated Overview to learn how to set up an account and copy a project into the Teacher Workspace. Next click on the Secondary Demo and read the Project Description for Serious Malady Explain how each of the assessments provides guidance to students throughout the project.

The description provides a clear outline of the teacher’s expectations and how she will do assessments. Telling them will research and evaluate evidence and then based on their research they will make conclusions of the most likely cause and source.

**7.** What are the key steps a teacher must take to set up the Showing Evidence Tool and engage students in using the tool?

The teacher must create a new project, name it and describe the project. She must then ask a question that will be answered by the students’ claims. The project engages and supports students by providing a list of starting resources including websites, magazines and books. Students are able to create rubrics to help them evaluate the quality of the evidence. This system of creating their own rating system would also make them exchange ideas and cause discussion.

**8.** Click on the Project Examples link and explore the Project Ideas and Unit Plans. How do the examples stimulate your thinking of how to use the Showing Evidence Tool?

The fact that there is a feature to just fill in the blanks to create a project would save teachers a ton of time. Also, the ability to embed links in the project is a useful resource for students. I think it would be useful to have students explore and make claims about a text and then have to provide evidence from the text to support their thinking. The tool also promotes active engagement of students in groups and individually to prioritize information and decision-making skills collaboratively.